

January 3, 2016

GEORGIA: The beginning of December saw normal conditions. During the last two weeks of the month, most of the state experienced heavy rains and flooding, except for the SE corner. For the month of December, the NW corner of the state received the most rain at 12.7 inches, and the SE corner received the least with 0.82 inches. Rains led to delayed harvests, reduced yields, crop loss and decreased quality of soybeans, cotton, and peanuts in many areas. By month's end, many producers were still attempting to get into fields to harvest crops and assess damage. Winter crops were recovering from excess rain while producers were concerned about soil erosion and deposits. Despite heavy rain, temperatures were unseasonably warm with highs in the upper 70s and lower 80s, which led to fruit crops budding prematurely. The combination of warm, very wet weather created a wide range of hay and grain conditions, from excellent to completely flooded. Some small grains remain unplanted due to saturated soil. All sweet onion planting has been completed. Livestock condition for the state is good to fair.